

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following amended paragraph:

[0016] Referring to Figure 2, the set of spaced prongs 4 projects perpendicularly from the bottom 6 of the receptacle. The prongs can be arranged in any pattern although a generally circular pattern is preferred. Depending on the construction material, the prongs can be of any size, thickness and spacing sufficient to support flower stems without breaking the prongs. In one version of the container, each prong is about 5/8 inches in length, with a cross-sectional diameter of about 1/8 inches. In Figure 2, the prongs 4 are attached to a support 12 to form a prong assembly 5 called a "frog" in the art, and the frog can be permanently or removably connected to the receptacle bottom 6. Alternatively, the prongs can be directly mounted to the bottom of the receptacle.